



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Members of the Indiana State Board of Education

From: Melissa Ambre, Director, Office of School Finance

Re: Common school loan policy

Date: June 18, 2021

In light of the current national health emergency surrounding COVID-19, school corporations are experiencing delays in availability and receipt of equipment purchases using a common school construction or technology loan. This is hampering their ability to spend loan proceeds within the time frame specified in the State Board of Education's Administrative Policies for the Common School Fund. The policy, which was adopted June 7, 2017, provides the following deadlines for expenditure of loan proceeds:

- Construction advances must be used within two years after the State Board of Education approves the advance, with at least fifty percent of the advance used within one year after the State Board of Education approves the advance.
- Technology advances must be used within one year after the State Board of Education approves the advance.

With that, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) respectfully requests State Board of Education consideration of an amendment to the policy that extends the time frame for expenditures for any school corporation receiving a construction or technology loan in calendar year 2020. IDOE requests that a six-month extension to the current policies be allowed to afford school corporations the opportunity to purchase necessary equipment as it becomes available. The policy amendment would allow for the following:

- Construction advances must be used within two years after the State Board of Education approves the advance, with at least fifty percent of the advance used within eighteen months after the State Board of Education approved the advance.
- Technology advances must be used within eighteen months after the State Board of Education approved the advance.

A modified timeframe allows school officials adequate time to complete projects in light of current events that may preclude them from normal activities.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education